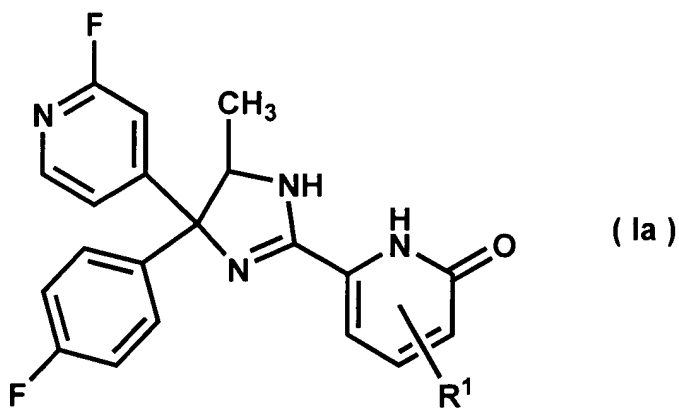


Amendments to the Claims

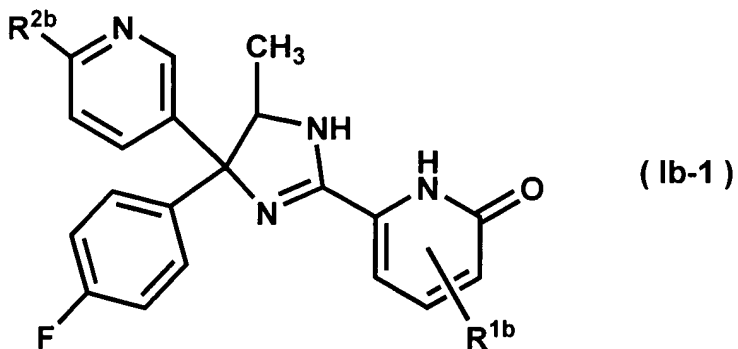
1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A compound of the formula (Ia):



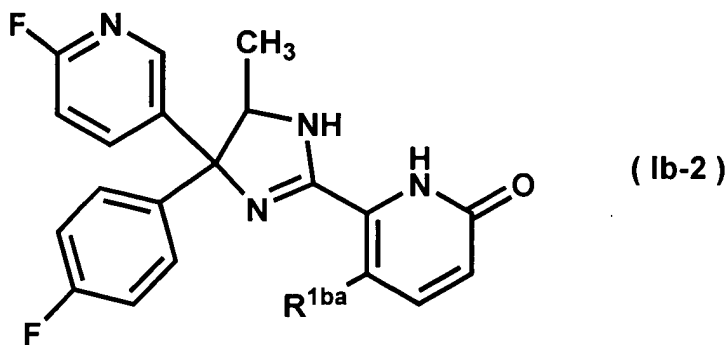
wherein R¹ is hydrogen, fluorine or hydroxy, or a salt thereof.

22. (New) A compound of the formula (Ib-1):



in which R^{1b} is halogen or lower alkyl; and R^{2b} is fluorine or trifluoromethyl, or a salt thereof.

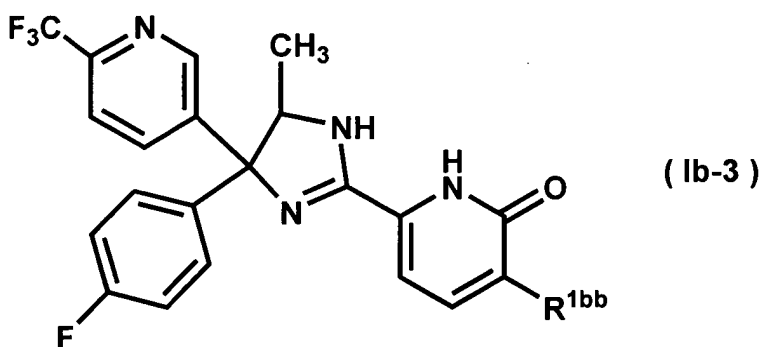
23. (New) A compound of the formula (Ib-2):



wherein R^{1ba} is halogen, or a salt thereof.

24. (New) The compound as claimed in Claim 23, wherein the halogen as R^{1ba} is fluorine.

25. (New) A compound of the formula (Ib-3):



in which R^{1bb} is lower alkyl, or a salt thereof.

26. (New) The compound as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the lower alkyl as R^{1bb} is methyl.

27. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 21, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

28. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 22, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

29. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 23, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

30. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 24, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

31. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 25, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

32. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as claimed in claim 26, or a salt thereof as an active ingredient, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.